

TRANSPORTATION SYMPOSIUM 2019

FLORIDA'S HIGHWAY GUIDE SIGN PROGRAM

DANA KNOX

FLORIDA'S HIGHWAY GUIDE SIGN PROGRAM

RULE 14-51, FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (F.A.C.)

- Inform and guide motorists to the needed signed facilities and motorist services
- Improve traffic flow at interchanges or intersections near destinations that generate a large volume of traffic
- Establish criteria for the erection of guide signs and general service signs



Inform



Guide



Improve



Establish

OVERVIEW

- Intent of the Highway Signing Program
- Statute Requirement
- Related Documents
- Sign Types
- Florida's Highway Guide Sign Program Rule 14-51

INTENT

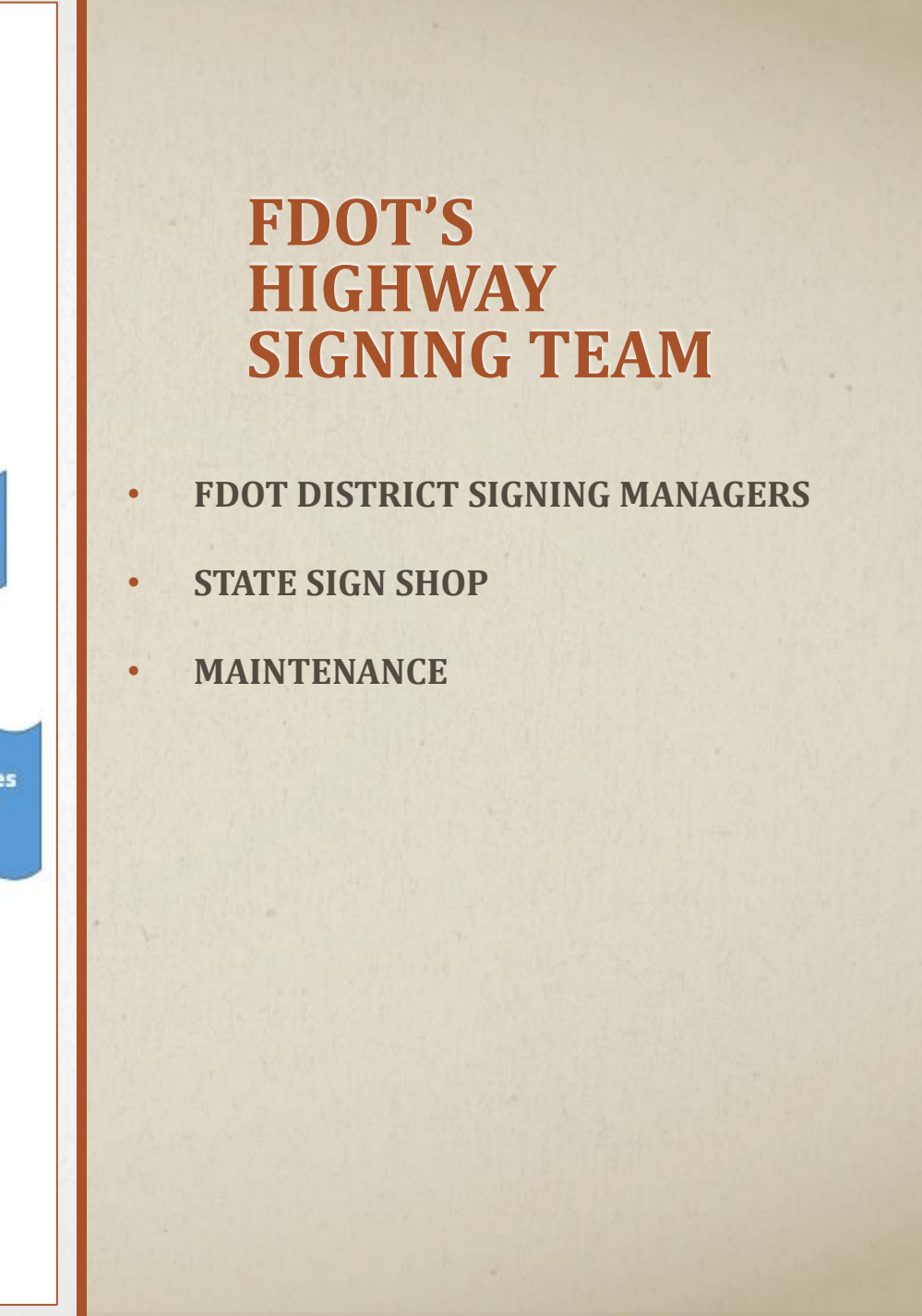
- **Florida's Highway Signing Program is intended for the safe and orderly movement of all road users:**
 - **motor vehicles**
 - **bicycles**
 - **pedestrian traffic**
- **Signs are a traffic control device**
 - **Notify road users of regulations**
 - **Provide warning and guidance**
- **Collaborative Approach - Composed of representatives from every District**

SIGN CLUTTER = MENTAL CLUTTER



FDOT'S HIGHWAY SIGNING TEAM

- **FDOT DISTRICT SIGNING MANAGERS**
- **STATE SIGN SHOP**
- **MAINTENANCE**



- Section 316.0745 (*Uniform Signals and Devices*) of the Florida Statutes assigns the FDOT responsibility for adopting a uniform system of traffic control devices of all locations where the public travels.
- In Florida, signs intended to control traffic must comply with the national standards published by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) found in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and the Standard Highway Signs supplement.

STATUTE REQUIREMENTS

F.S. 316.0745

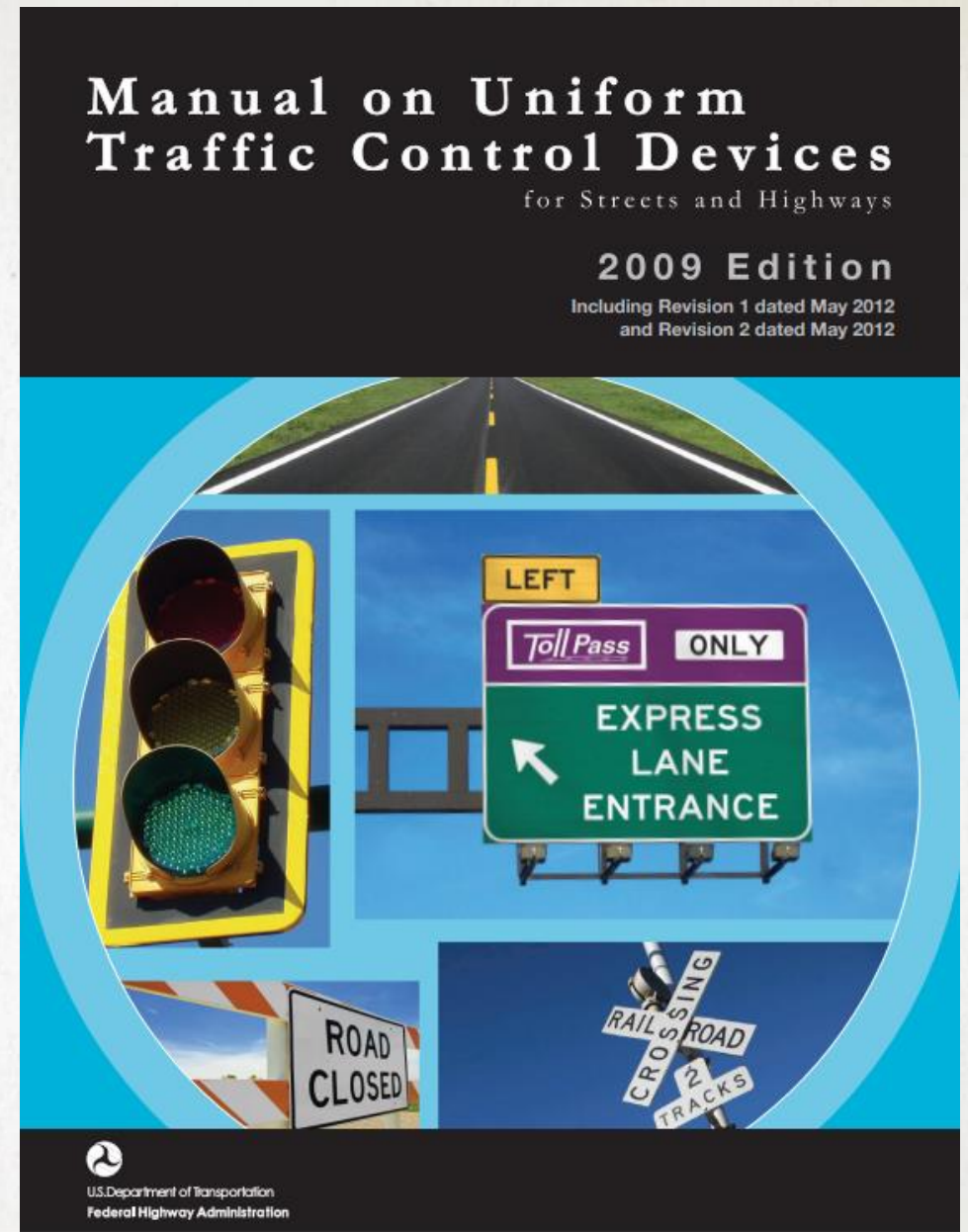
RELATED DOCUMENTS

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)

The MUTCD is recognized as the national standard for all signs.

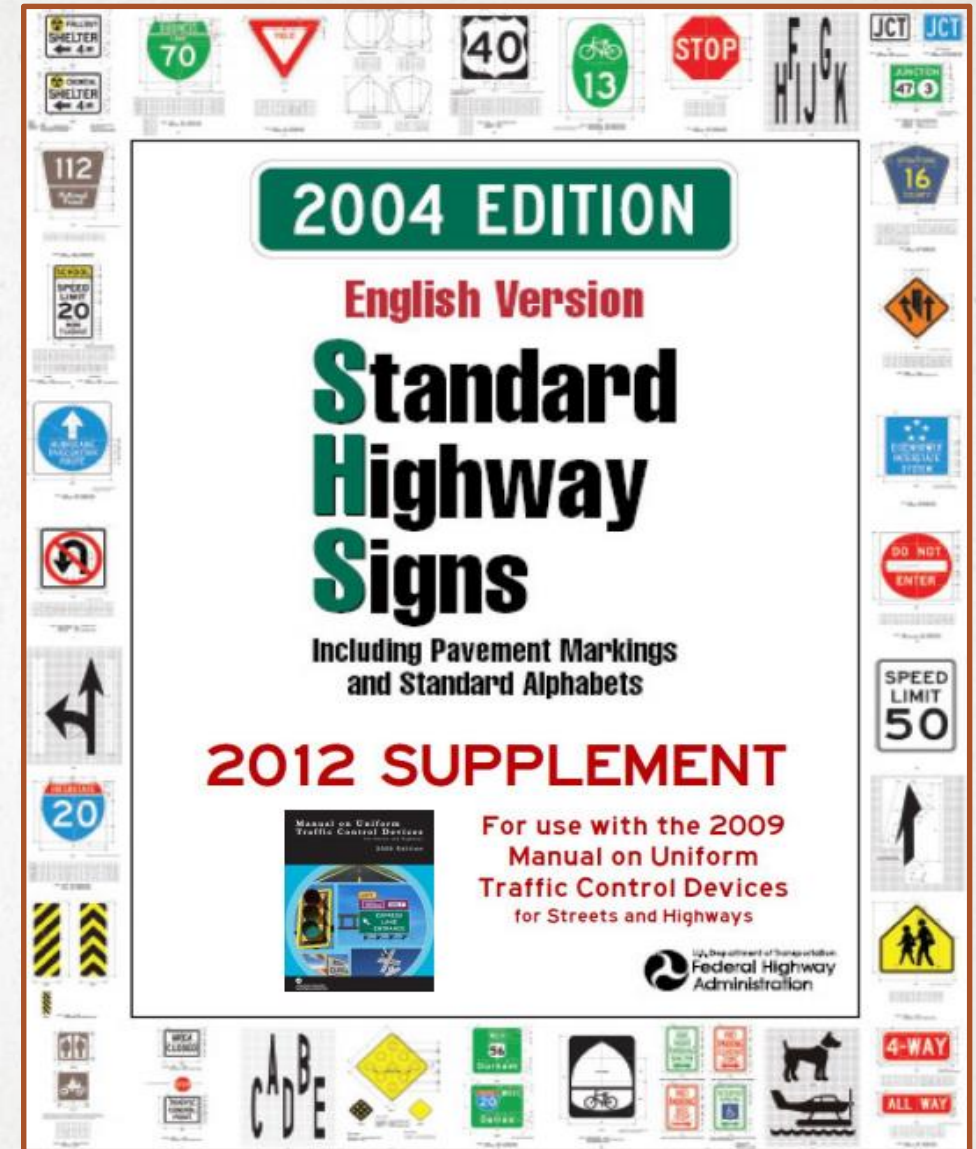
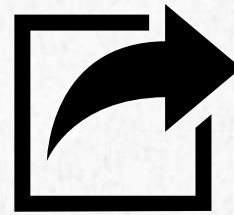
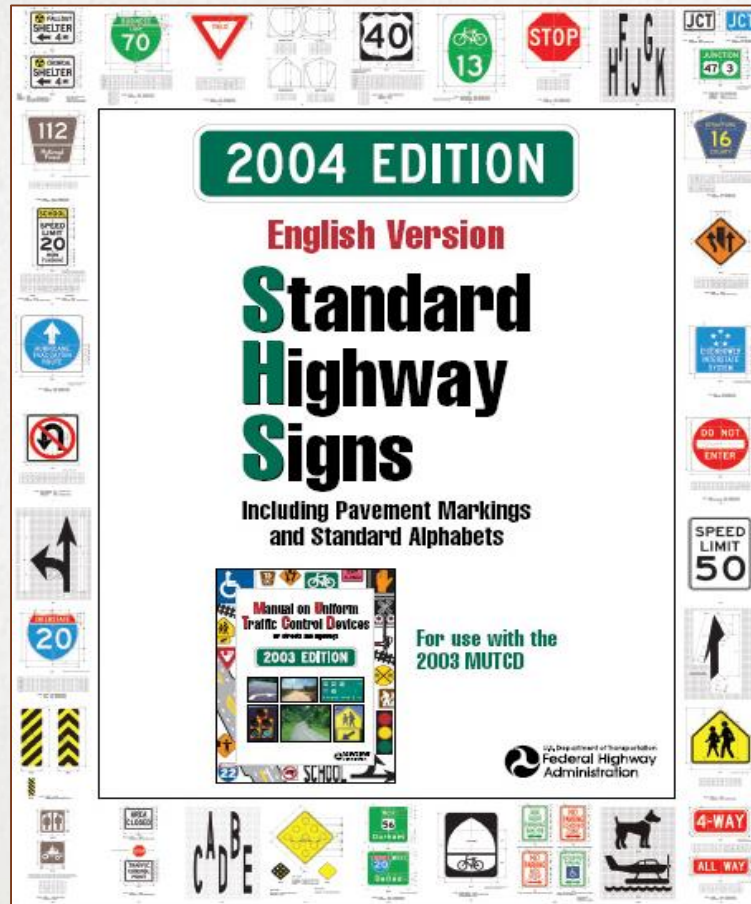
Guidance:

- 02 To be effective, a traffic control device should meet five basic requirements:
- A. Fulfill a need;
 - B. Command attention;
 - C. Convey a clear, simple meaning;
 - D. Command respect from road users; and
 - E. Give adequate time for proper response.



RELATED DOCUMENTS

Standard Highway Signs (SHS)



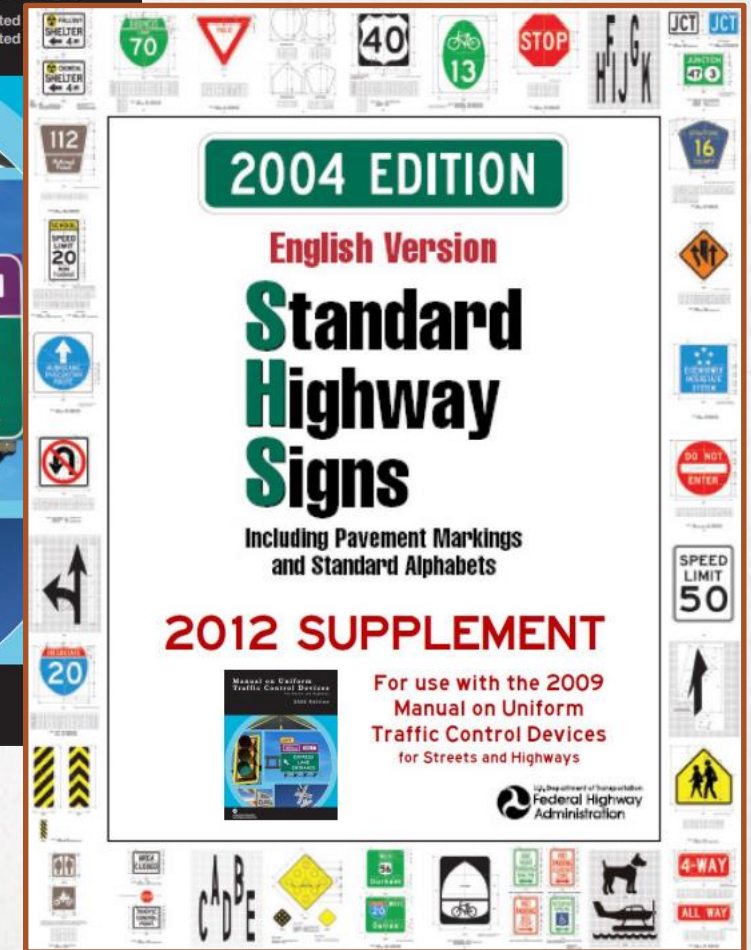
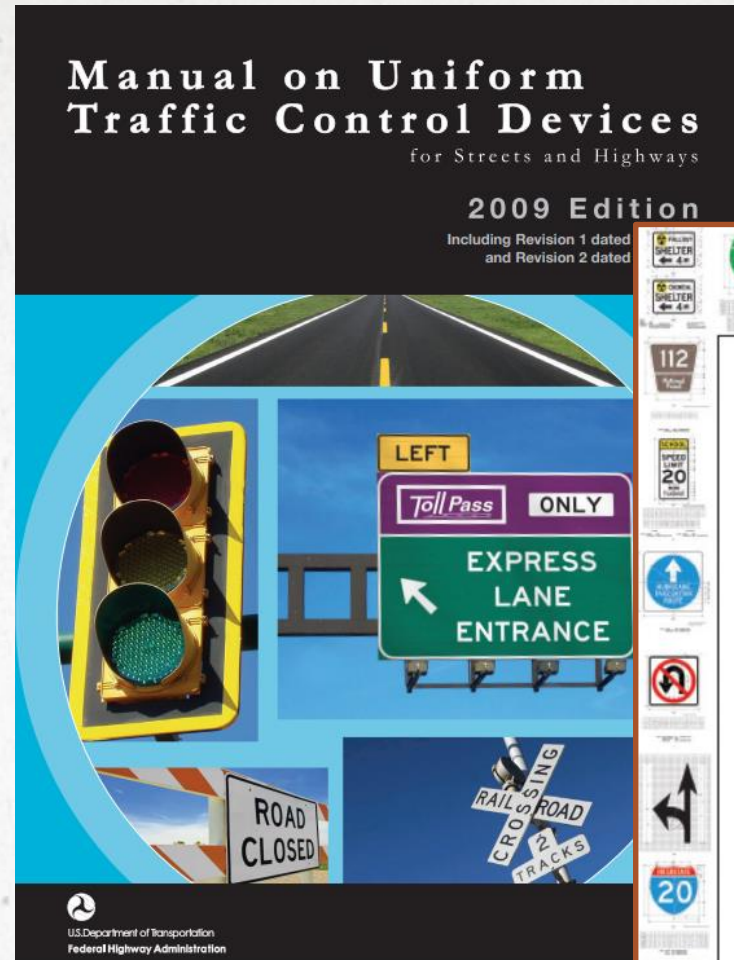
RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)
 - Standard Highway Signs (SHS)
 - Traffic Engineering Manual (TEM)
 - Standard Plans
 - FDOT Design Manual (FDM)
 - Standard Specifications
-

RELATED DOCUMENTS

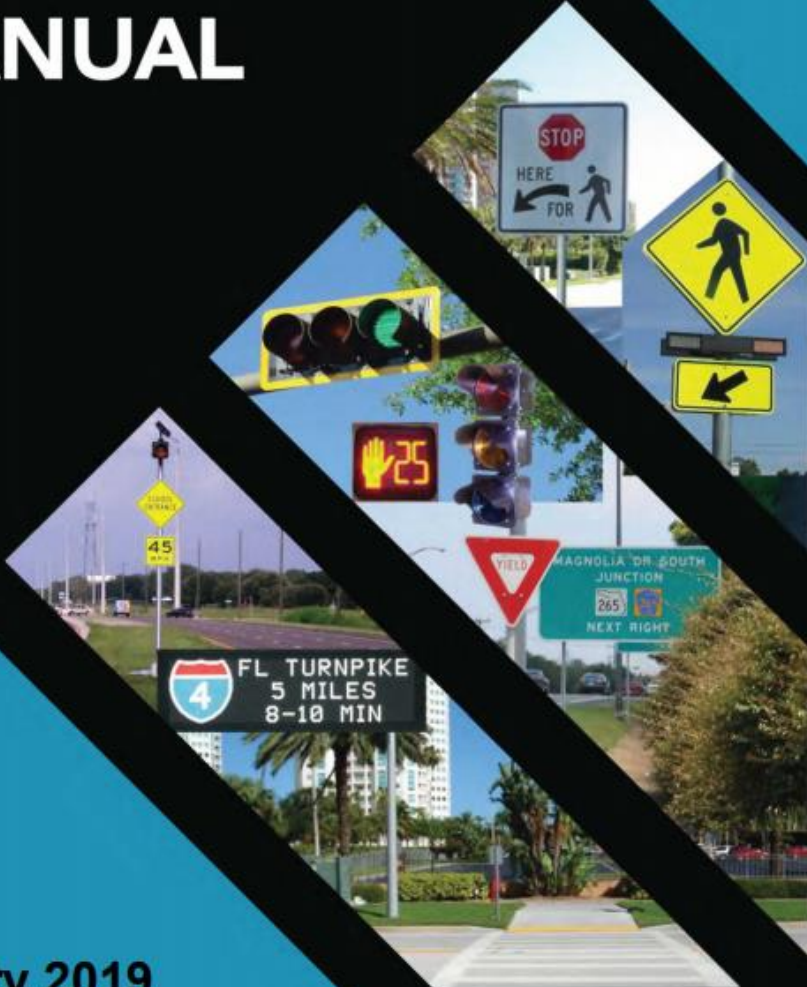
- **Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)**
- **Standard Highway Signs (SHS)**

national standard for all signs





TRAFFIC ENGINEERING MANUAL



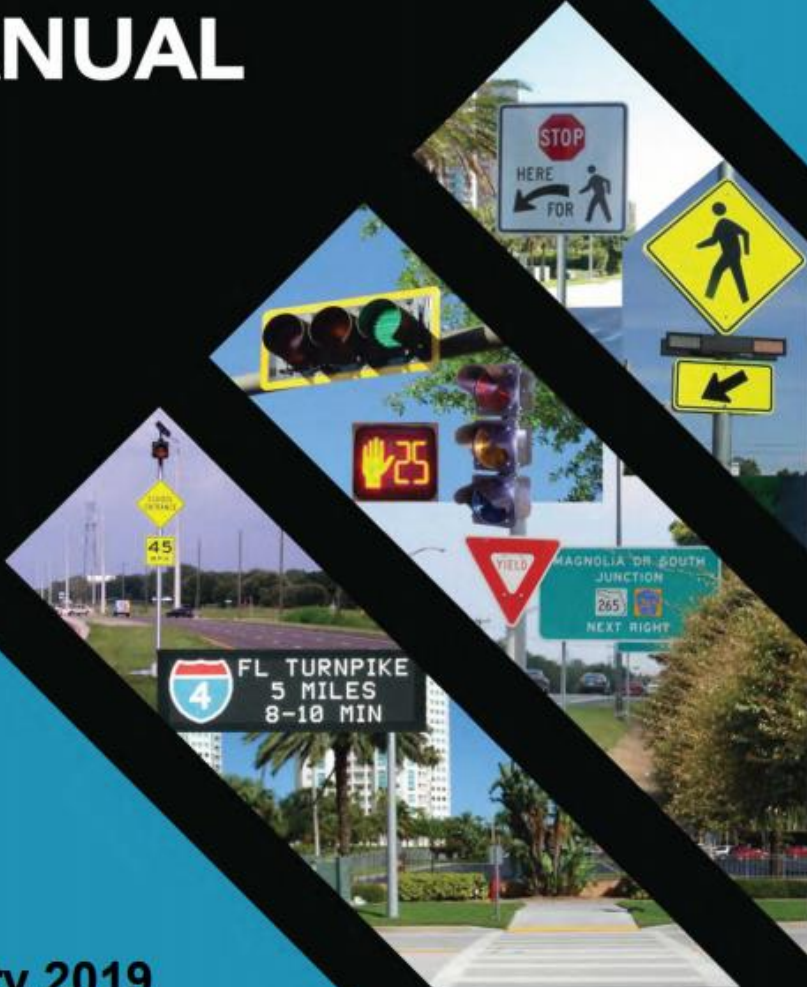
January 2019

RELATED DOCUMENTS

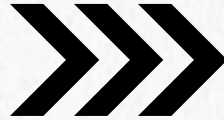
Traffic Engineering Manual (TEM)

- Procedure Topic No. 750-000-005
- Provides traffic engineering standards and guidelines (when to use)
- Chapter 2 Signs

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING MANUAL



January 2019



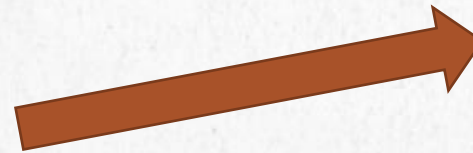
Chapter 2 SIGNS

2.1	Use of Slippery When Wet Signs	2-1-1
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RELATED DOCUMENTS

Standard Plans for Road Construction

- ensures uniform standards in the preparation of contract plans
- 700 Series
- Sign details and sign mounting heights and offsets are examples

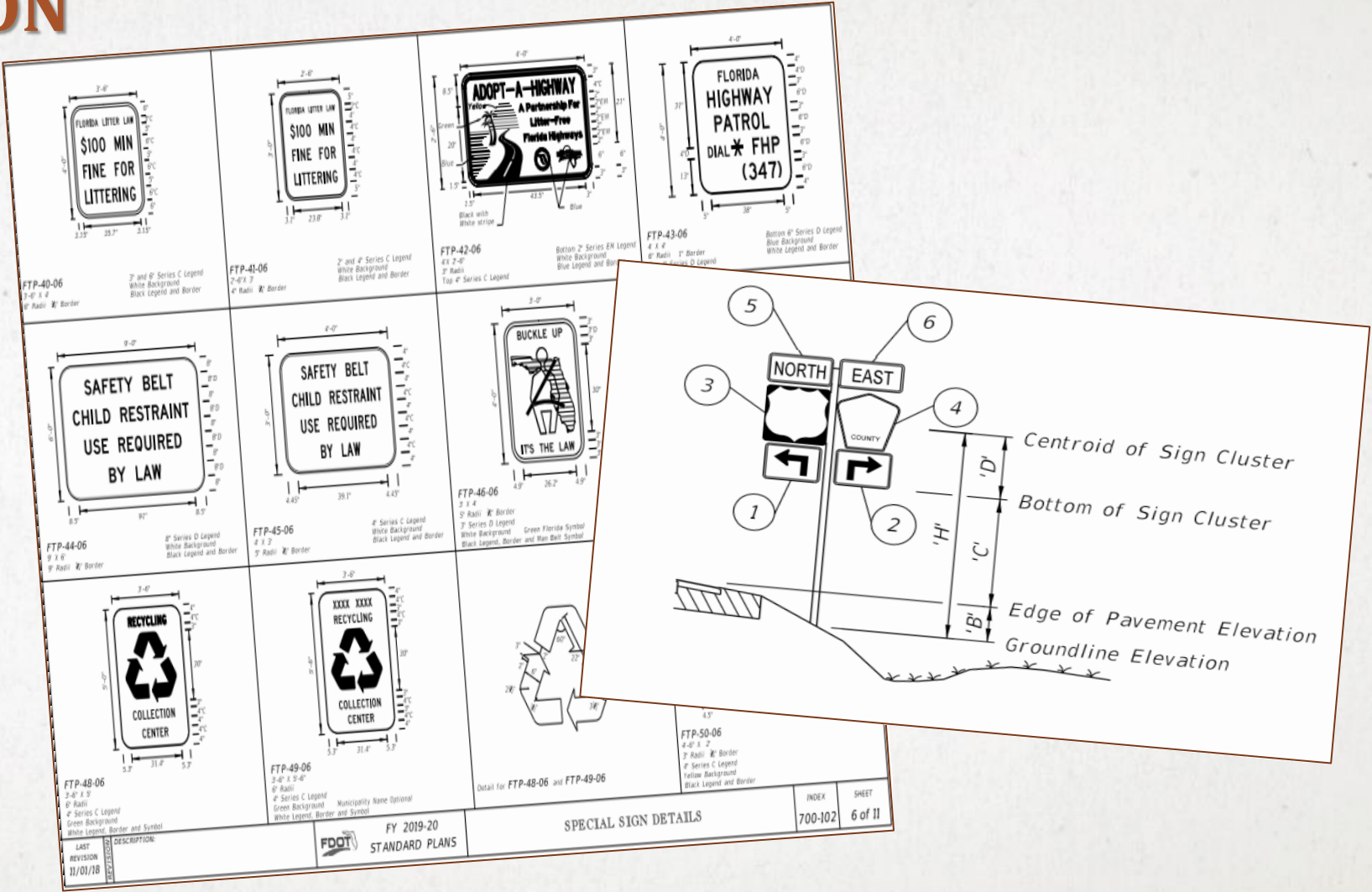


Signing, Pavement Markings and Lighting						
		Highway Signing				
700-010		Single Column Ground Signs	11860	SPI	PGM	Roadway
700-011		Single Column Cantilever Ground Mounted Sign	11861	SPI		
700-012		Single Post Bridge Mounted Sign Support	11870	SPI		
700-013		Single Post Median Barrier Mounted Sign Support	11871	SPI		
700-020		Multi-Column Ground Sign	11200	SPI	PGM	
700-030	Errata	Wind and Hanger Beams for Overhead Signs	11300	SPI		
700-031		External Lighting for Signs	17505	SPI		
700-040		Cantilever Sign Structure	11310	SPI	PGM	
700-041		Span Sign Structure	11320	SPI	PGM	
700-050		Free-Swinging, Internally-Illuminated Street Sign Assemblies	17748			
700-090		Dynamic Message Sign Walk-In	18300			TrafficOps
700-101		Typical Sections for Placement of Single and Multi-Column Signs	17302			Roadway
700-102		Special Sign Details	17355			
700-104		Signing for Motorist Services	17350			
700-105		Welcome Center Signing	17351			
700-106		Rural Narrow Bridge Treatment	17359			
700-107		Bridge Weight Restrictions	17357			
700-108		Typical Signing for Truck Weigh and Inspection Stations	17328			
700-109		Traffic Controls for Street Terminations	17349			
700-110		Mounting Exit Number Panels to Signs	13417			
700-120		Enhanced Highway Signing Assemblies	11862	SPI		

STANDARD PLANS FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Examples include:

- Special sign details
- Single column ground signs



RELATED DOCUMENTS

FDOT Design Manual

- guidance for sign plans
- Section 325 Signing and Pavement Marking Plans

Topic #625-000-002
FDOT Design Manual

January 1, 2019

325 Signing and Pavement Marking Plans

325.1 General

Signing and Pavement Marking (S&PM) Plans are usually a component set of plans. Component plans are assembled as a separate plans set complete with a Key Sheet, Tabulation of Quantities, and all other required signing and pavement marking sheets. Number the component plans with the sheet numbers prefixed by the letter "S"; e.g., S-1, S-2, S-3.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Standard Specifications

- requirements for Construction/Maintenance Contractor performing the work



SIGNING, PAVEMENT MARKING, AND LIGHTING

SECTION 700 HIGHWAY SIGNING

700-1 General Requirements.

700-1.1 Description: Furnish and erect roadway signs at the locations, and in accordance with the details, shown in the Plans.

The Department designates ground traffic signs as signs erected on the shoulders, slopes, or medians, but not extending over the traveled roadway, and may further classify these signs as single post or multi-column.

The Department designates signs erected partially or completely over the traveled roadway or mounted on bridges as overhead traffic signs, and may further classify these signs as overhead cantilever or span traffic signs.

Meet the requirements of Section 603.

700-1.2 Materials:

700-1.2.1 General: Meet the materials requirements shown in the Specifications, Standard Plans, and any additional requirements identified in the Plans.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Summary

- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD): *the national standard for all traffic control devices*
- Standard Highway Signs (SHS): *MUTCD sign details*
- Traffic Engineering Manual (TEM): *guidance to Designer and/or Traffic Engineer on when to use*
- Standard Plans: *special sign details and mounting requirements for Construction/Maintenance Contractor*
- FDOT Design Manual (FDM): *guidance to Designer for sign plans*
- Standard Specifications: *requirements for Construction/Maintenance Contractor performing the work*

Classification	
Regulatory:	Give notice of traffic laws or regulations
Warning:	Give notice of a situation that might not be readily apparent.
Guide:	Show route designations, destinations, directions, distances, services, points of interest, and other geographical, recreational, or cultural information.

CLASSIFICATION OF SIGNS

Regulatory

Warning

Guide

CLASSIFICATION OF SIGNS

REGULATORY SIGNS

Regulatory signs give notice of traffic laws or regulations.



CLASSIFICATION OF SIGNS

WARNING SIGNS

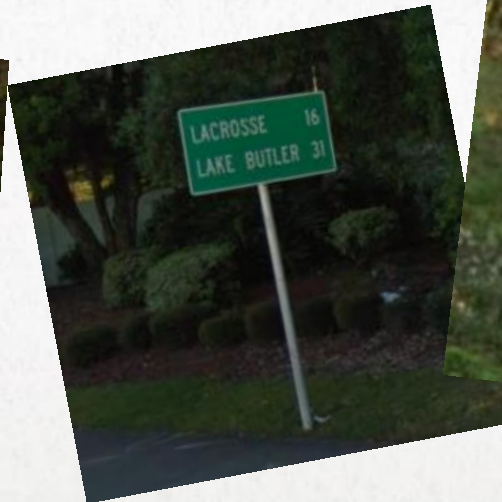
Warnings signs give notice of a situation that might not be readily apparent.



CLASSIFICATION OF SIGNS

GUIDE SIGNS

Guide signs show route designations, destinations, directions, distances, services, points of interest, and other geographical, recreational, or cultural information.



CLASSIFICATION OF SIGNS

GUIDE SIGNS

- Guide Signs –
Conventional Roads –
non-limited access



- Guide Signs –
Freeways and
Expressways –
limited access



GUIDE SIGNS ALSO INCLUDE...

PLACE NAME SIGNS

Identifies geographic boundaries



GUIDE SIGNS ALSO INCLUDE...

COMMUNITY WAYFINDING SIGNS

Themed approach for key civic, cultural, visitor, and recreational attractions within a city of a local urbanized area

Figure 2D-18. Examples of Community Wayfinding Guide Signs

A - Community Wayfinding Guide Signs with Enhancement Markers



B - Destination Guide Signs for Color-Coded Community Wayfinding System



GUIDE SIGNS ALSO INCLUDE...

TOURIST-ORIENTED DIRECTIONAL SIGNS (TODS)

Rural tourist-oriented businesses,
services, and activities; rural roads





Rule Chapter: 14-51

Chapter Title: FLORIDA'S HIGHWAY GUIDE SIGN PROGRAM

View Chapter:



14-51



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Provides for a system of guide signing that...

- informs and guides motorists
- improves traffic flow
- establishes criteria for qualifying destinations for guide signs

FLORIDA'S HIGHWAY GUIDE SIGN PROGRAM

Rule 14-51, Florida Administrative Code

PARTS OF THE RULE

- Part I General
 - Part II Guide Signs on Limited Access Facilities
 - Part III Guide Signs on Non-limited Access Facilities
 - Part IV Place Name Signs on Non-limited Access Facilities
 - Part V Community Wayfinding Guide Signs
 - Part VI Tourist-Oriented Directional Signs (TODS)
-

PART I

GENERAL

- Definitions: 23 definitions, such as, “Supplemental Guide Sign” and “Sign”
 - Purpose: all proposed signs must fulfill a need for the use of a traffic control device
 - Trailblazers: local government must install prior to installing on state highway system
 - Sign Evaluation Process: Will the sign benefit the safety of the motoring public and is there space available for another sign at the requested location?
 - General Criteria: minimum spacing distances for signs (Table 1) and priority order by sign (regulatory signs have priority over warning signs; warning signs have priority over direction signs)
 - Guide signs will only be permitted to destinations that are open for business year round, have restrooms for patron use, and paved handicapped parking facilities
-

PART I

GENERAL

Priority guidelines and Table 1 – Minimum Spacing Distances for Signs

(7) Guide signs shall not be installed where such signing interferes with the function of traffic control devices, impairs visibility, or violates minimum spacing distances listed in Table 1. Priority guidelines in sign installation are contained in Section 2A.16 of the MUTCD. The descending order of priority is regulatory (white signs), warning (yellow signs), exit (principle) direction and supplemental destination (green signs), general service (blue signs), and historical, recreational, and cultural (brown signs).

Table 1 – Minimum Spacing Distances for Signs

Speed (mph)	Minimum Spacing Distance (feet)
25 or less	Distance to ensure traffic control devices are not blocked from view.
30 35	200
35 45	250
50 60	300
60 70 (Interstate)	800

PART II

GUIDE SIGNS ON LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

- Criteria for Supplemental Guide Signs: destinations accessible from interchange not included in standard interchange signing
- Table 2 (eligible destinations) and Table 3 (destinations not eligible)
- Supplemental guide signs shall be located in advance of the interchange that is the most practical route to the facility
 - Standards:
 - no more than four supplemental guide sign destinations on no more than two guide sign assemblies
 - no more than three lines of text at any one sign
 - only once in each direction
 - Guidelines – specific criteria for qualified destinations



PART II

GUIDE SIGNS ON LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

Table 2 (eligible destinations) and Table 3 (destinations not eligible)

Examples: Table 2

Table 2 – Criteria for Signing Destinations on Limited Access Facilities				
Type of Destination	Criteria	Guidelines		
		Major Metro Areas ¹	Urban Areas ²	Rural Areas ³
State and National Parks, and State Forest Recreational Areas	Miles from Interchange (maximum)	15	15	15
Private Colleges and Universities	Number of Trips Generated Annually ^c (minimum)	550,000 ^a	550,000 ^a	300,000 ^a
		1,200,000 ^b	750,000 ^b	450,000 ^b
	Miles from Interchange (maximum)	15	15	15

Examples: Table 3

Table 3 – Destinations Not Eligible for Signing on Limited Access Facilities	
Businesses	Chamber of Commerce, television/radio station, live performance or movie theaters, motels/hotels/inns, travel trailer parks, industrial parks and plants, commerce centers, shopping centers, auto malls, auctions, flea markets.
Cemeteries	Local, state, federal, sovereign nation, public, private.

PART II

GUIDE SIGNS ON LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

Standards

- no more than four supplemental guide sign destinations on no more than two guide sign assemblies
- no more than three lines of text at any one sign

Sunshine YMCA
Penny Stadium
Mayport Zoo



Emerald Coast
Technical College

OK

PART II

GUIDE SIGNS ON LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

Standards

- no more than four supplemental guide sign destinations on no more than two guide sign assemblies
- no more than three lines of text at any one sign

Sunshine YMCA
Penny Stadium
Mayport Zoo



Winter Garden
Emerald Coast
Technical College

NOT OK

PART II

GUIDE SIGNS ON LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

Guidelines - examples

(h) Certified Florida Farm Wineries shall be eligible for signing pursuant to Section 599.004, F.S. The Florida Farm Winery logo panel with supplemental name panel shall be installed based on space availability. There is a \$250 one-time fee per sign.

(i) Licensed Craft Distilleries shall be eligible for signing pursuant to Section 565.03, F.S., based on space availability. The Craft Distillery will be responsible for all signs and associated costs, including replacements, through the Department's permit system in accordance with Rule 14-51.014, F.A.C.

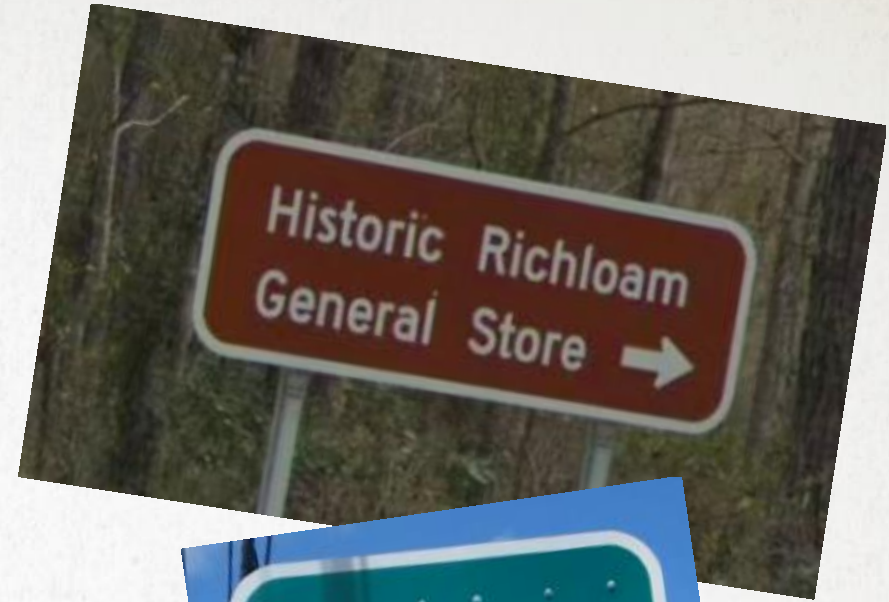
(j) Craft Breweries meeting the requirements of Section 563.13, F.S., shall be eligible for signing based on space availability. The Craft Brewery will be responsible for all signs and associated costs, including replacements, through the Department's permit system in accordance with Rule 14-51.014, F.A.C.

(k) Signing for "regional malls" or "outlet malls" (Malls) shall be eligible for signing only if the facility is located within 5 miles of the qualifying interchange and occupies 1,000,000 square feet or more of active retail sales area (excluding any parking, business, residential or hotel space, landscape area, or shipping, receive, warehousing, or stock areas) and is open for business. Regional or outlet malls with open-air promenades comprised of individual buildings, located together in a themed environment that meet the square feet requirement and are in a climate-controlled active retail area may be considered. To be eligible for signing as a Mall, all property included as square footage shall be managed by a single leasing agent and storefronts shall be on the same or contiguous properties. Outparcels are not included in the square footage summary. If the Mall requests a name change within six years of sign installation, the Mall shall be responsible to contract for all supplemental guide sign replacements, through the Department's permit system, at their own expense. The applicant shall submit a traffic engineering study performed by a licensed Florida professional engineer, addressing each of the qualifying criteria which include:

PART III

GUIDE SIGNS ON NON-LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

- Criteria for Destination Guide Signs
- Table 4 (eligible destinations) and Table 5 (destinations not eligible)
- Destination Guide Signs shall be located in advance of the intersecting roadway this is the most direct or desirable route to the facility
 - Standards:
 - no more than six destinations, including cities, at any intersection approach
 - no more than two separate signs with no more than three lines of legend on each sign
 - Guidelines – specific criteria for qualified destinations



PART III

GUIDE SIGNS ON NON-LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

Table 4 (eligible destinations) and Table 5 (destinations not eligible)

Examples: Table 4

Table 4 Criteria for Signing Destinations on Non-limited Access Facilities				
Type of Destination	Criteria	Guidelines		
		Major Metro Areas ¹	Urban Areas ²	Rural Areas ³
State Colleges and Universities	Nearest intersection to the state highway system.			
Private Colleges and Universities	Number of Trips Generated Annually ^c (minimum)	550,000 ^{ad}	550,000 ^{ad}	300,000 ^{ad}
		1,200,000 ^{bd}	750,000 ^{bd}	450,000 ^{bd}

Examples: Table 5

Table 5 Destinations Not Eligible for Signing on Non-Limited Access Facilities	
Businesses	Television/radio station, theaters, motels/hotels/inns, travel trailer parks, industrial parks and plants, office parks, shopping districts, shopping centers.
Cemeteries	Local, state, federal, sovereign nation, public, private.
Community Facilities	Civic groups (Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, etc.), churches, subdivision, mixed use facilities, business districts.

PART III

GUIDE SIGNS ON NON-LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

Standards

- no more than six destinations, including cities, at any intersection approach
- no more than two separate signs with no more than three lines of legend on each sign



Sunshine YMCA
Penny Stadium
Mayport Zoo



Winter Garden
Emerald Coast
Technical College

PART III

GUIDE SIGNS ON NON-LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

Guidelines - examples

2. Private colleges and universities that meet the trip generation referenced in Table 4, as documented by the requesting organization, are eligible for signing through the Department's permit system, if they meet the criteria outlined in Rule 14-51.013, F.A.C. Private universities with existing signs will be retained so long as they remain active. Private universities shall only be eligible for destination guide signing to distinct college campuses, when the core baccalaureate degree requirement courses are available in traditional classroom settings at that site and meet the trip generation criteria.

3. Schools licensed by the Department of Education's Commission for Independent Education are not eligible for signing to any site unless they meet the trip generation criteria referenced in Table 4 as documented by the requesting organization.

(p) Signing for multi-modal transportation facilities is considered destination guide signing, except for those that qualify as a general service.

1. Multi-modal facilities are airports (air carrier and general aviation), seaports (passenger and cargo), rail terminals, intercity bus, parking lots, garages, and Park and Ride.

2. A destination guide signing plan for multi-modal facilities shall be submitted.

(q) Veterans' Hospitals designated as the regional treatment center or State Veterans' nursing homes are eligible for destination guide signing on non-limited access facilities.

PART II AND PART III

LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES and NON-LIMITED ACCESS

General Service Signs – used when the general services provided are infrequent and not within sight of the interchange/intersection



PART IV

PLACE NAME SIGNS ON NON-LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

- natural geographic features and official boundaries of counties, municipalities, or unincorporated areas
 - White legend on a green rectangular background
 - urban subdivisions are NOT eligible
 - “Exiting” or “Leaving” added to a place name signs shall not be permitted
 - Customized Place Name Signs are included in the community aesthetic features (FDM Section 127)
-

PART IV

PLACE NAME SIGNS ON NON-LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES

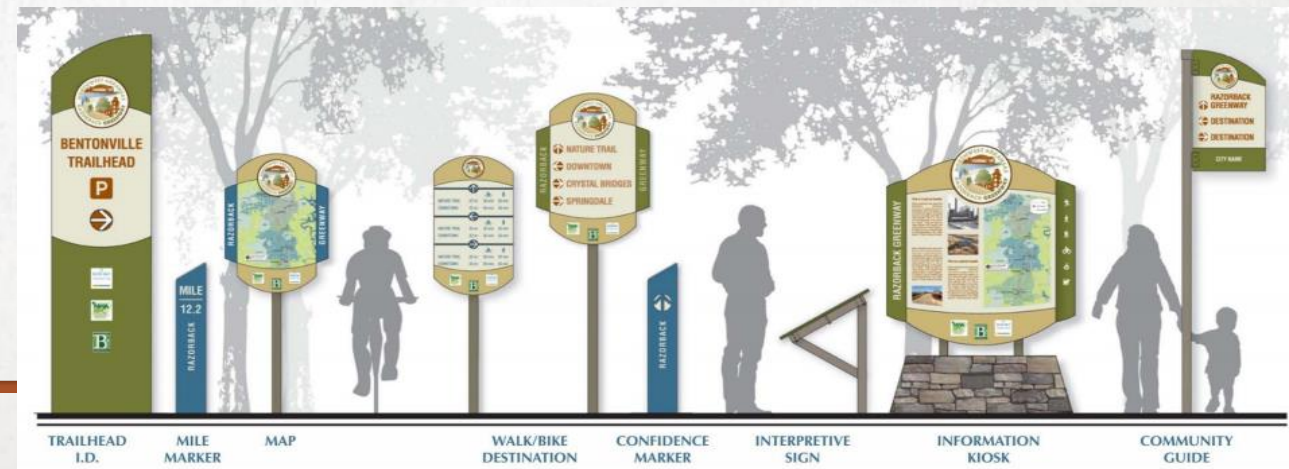
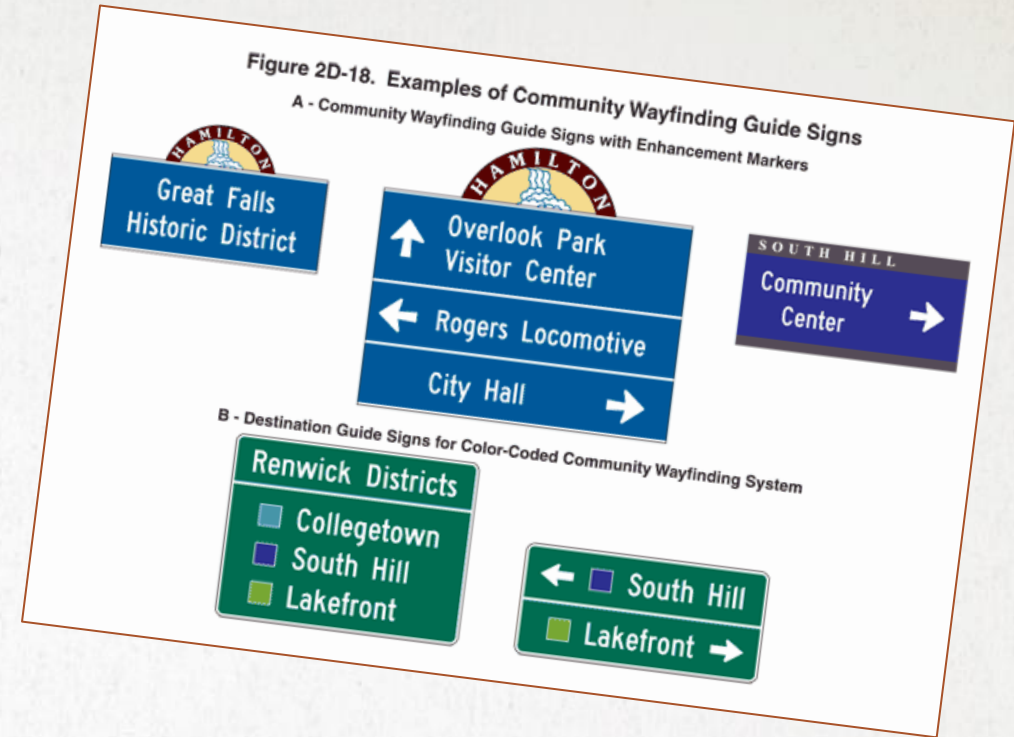


NOT ALLOWED per Rule: Customized Place Name Signs are included in the community aesthetic features program

PART V

COMMUNITY WAYFINDING GUIDE SIGNS

- Standards
 - Only allowed on non-limited access
- Design
 - Not allowed as background color: red, yellow, orange, purple, fluorescent yellow-green, or fluorescent pink
 - Maximum of four destinations
- Pedestrian Wayfinding Signs
- Informational Guide Signs



PART VI

TOURIST-ORIENTED DIRECTIONAL SIGNS (TODS)

- Established by local government
- Limited to rural roads
- Major portion (51%) of income or visitors from tourists not residing within 20 miles of the destination
- Maximum of five panels on two posts



SIGN CLUTTER = MENTAL CLUTTER





THANK YOU!

